

By the King.



Whereas the Kings Maiestie hath alwayes bene ready to imbrace and cherish such a perfect amitie and friendship betweene him and the King of Spaine, and the Archdukes his good brethren, as might stand with his owne honour, and the common good of his people (For the better and more particuler obseruation whereof, there hath bene lately passed a Treatie, wherein his Maiesties royall Will and pleasure is made so notozious to the world in all things, as whosoever doeth, or shall crosse the sinceritie of his Maiesties intention by any action of theirs, cannot auoyd the censure of high & wilfull contempt against his person and State,) Although his Maiestie is not ignozant, that these offences for the most part, are dayly committed by such, as (partly out of their owne originall corruption, and partly by habite of spoile and rapine) are become so insensible or desperate of the perill they draw vpon themselves, and the imputation they cast vpon the honour of their Soueraigne (so precious to him) as his Maiesty is driuen for repaire thereof, to make open profession of his sinceritie in this kinde, more often then otherwise he would: Neuerthelesse, his Maiestie hauing lately found by many circumstances, that most of these great faults do grow and multiply, by negligence of inferiour Officers, (especially such as are resident in the Ports, and dwell in the Maritime Counties,) from Whom his Maiestie expecteth so continuall care and vigilancie (not onely out of feare of his Maiesties displeasure, but euen for conscience sake,) as they should bee rather industrious Watches ouer those that runne such wicked courses, then (in any degree) Recitours or Abettors of the same, considering that those are as well accomptable to God, that hinder not the euill of others (being in their power, and incident to their peculiar places and duties) as those that are the personall Actors, or contriuers of the same: His Maiestie hath thought it necessary once againe to publish to all persons of what place or condition soeuer within his Maiesties Dominions, these Rules and Ordinances following, as things whereunto hee commandeth all persons (whatsoever) to yeeld their duetifull obedience, vpon perill of his heauie indignation, and the grievous paines belonging to the same.

First, his Maiestie commandeth that no Seaman or Mariner whatsoever, shalbe suffered to put himselfe into any warlike seruice at Sea of any forreine Prince or State, straightly charging all that are in any such seruice already, to leaue the same presently and without delay, and to record their apparance in their native Countrey, to some of his Maiesties Officers, vpon paine to be held and punished as Pirats.

Item, If any person offending, doe at any time hereafter come into any port, or place of his Maiesties Dominions, vpon what pretext soeuer: his Maiestie expressely chargeth all his Officers forthwith to apprehend the same, and to commit them to prison without Baile or Mainprise, and the Certificat thereof to be presently returned into the Admiraltie Court, to the ends that they may bee proceeded withall, according to the Lawes of the Realme, and the contents of his Maiesties former Proclamations.

Item, his Maiestie commandeth all his Subiects, (as they will auoyd his heauie indignation) to forbear to be aiding or receiuing of any Pirats, or such persons as shall continue in any such warlike seruice, as aforesaid, or any person not being a knownen Merchant, by contracting, buying, selling, or by victualling of them, or any of their Company, vpon paine for so doing, to be punished presently, as the principall Offenders and Pirats ought to be.

Item, That no shipping, or men of warre, of what estate or condition soeuer, going forth with commission of reprisall, or in any other warlike maner to serue at Seas, shall be permitted in any of his Maiesties ports, or in the members thereof to victual or relieue themselves with any warlike provisions, thereby to enable themselves the better, to any acts of hostilitie at Sea against any of his Maiesties friends: but onely in their returne homewards, if they happen to come into any of his Maiesties ports, that then it shall be lawfull for them to relieue themselves with victuall, or other necessities to serue them onely for the space of twentie dayes and no more, which is a proportion reasonable to vse in trade of merchandize.

Item, That all vice Admirals, Customers, or other officers of the Ports shall not suffer any Ship of his Maiesties Subiects to goe to the Seas, before such time as they (respectively in their severall ports) have duely searched and visited the same, to the intent to stay such persons as apparantly shall be furnished for the warres, and not for merchandise or fishing. And if there shall be any manner of suspicion, that the said person (though he shall pretend to trade for merchandise or fishing) hath or may have any other intent by his provisions or furniture, then to vse the trade of merchandise or fishing, that in such case of suspicion, the officers of the Ports shall stay, and no wayes suffer the same to passe to the Seas, without good bands with sufficient sureties first had, to vse nothing, but the lawfull trade of merchandise or fishing. And if the said officers shall suffer any persons otherwise to repaire to the Seas, then above is mentioned, they shall not onely answer for any Pyracies, which any such person shall chance hereafter to commit vpon the Seas, but shall suffer imprisonment untill the offenders may be apprehended, if they shall be living.

And further, as his Maiestie declareth and denounceth generally all such Pyrates and Rovers vpon the Seas to be out of his protection, and therefore to be lawfully pursued and punished to the uttermost extremitie: so because his Maiestie presumeth, that all other States and persons in peace and friendship with him, will thinke it iust and honourable to proceede towarde him, with the same sinceritie, which hee obserueth towarde them: his Maiestie doeth also hereby notifie to the world, that where it falleth out that diuers of his Subiects are or may bee enterprised to serue at Sea vnder Captaines and Commanders belonging to some forreine Prince or State, (which are now or may be in termes of hostility with any of his Maiesties friends) thereby imagining, when they shall (vpon occasion) enter with their Shippes into any of his Maiesties Harbours, that they shall be free from any interruption, according to the libertie of Common Amity and correspondency which is vsually obserued betweene Princes in such cases, onely because the Commander or Captaine with some few persons besides are straungers, and the rest onely discovered to be his Maiesties Subiects: For as much as his Maiestie (having made his iust and equall intentions thus apparant to all men by his publike Proclamations) would be loath to frustrate the expectation of any his friends whome it doth or may concerne: he doth hereby declare to all the world, that if hee shall hereafter finde any such fraudulent course taken, in hope colourably to auoid the true construction of his so iust and necessarie ordinances, the breach wherof giues cause of further trouble and iealousies to arise betweene his Maiestie and other Princes in the mutuall exercise of their Subiects free trade and entercourse: he will make absolute stay of any such Shippes and persons, which shall be so brought into his Portes or Harbours, as persons and thinges wholly exempted from that protection and fauour, which hee entendeth to maintaine and affoord to all others which shall not in such kinde goe about to abuse his Maiesties integritie, whose desire is to receiue no better measure in any thing, then he is willing to yeeld to others vpon the like occasions.

Giuen at our Castle of Windsor the viij. of Iuly 1605. in the third yeere of our
Reigne of Great Britaine, France and Ireland.

God saue the King.

✻ Imprinted at London by Robert Barker,

Printer to the Kings most Excellent Maiestie.

ANNO DOM. 1605.